

REMARKS

The Amendments

New claims 12 and 13 are directed to the compounds recited in the examples.

Election

In response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action of February 10, 2003, applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-7. With respect to the election of species requirement, applicants select 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tris(pentafluoroethyl)-trifluorophosphate as the elected species. See Example 1 and claim 13. However, the Restriction is respectfully traversed.

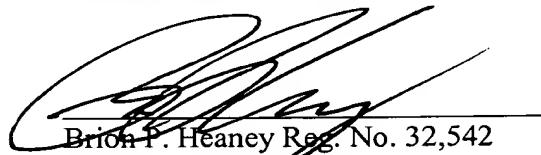
In the Restriction it is alleged that the Invention of Group I is in intermediate-final product relationship with the Inventions of Groups II and III. This is incorrect. Groups II and III are directed to devices and/or composition that contain the compound(s) of Group I. There is no chemical intermediate-final product relationship. The compounds of Group I are used as such in the device/composition of Group II and III. The compounds do not lose their identity when used in the devices/compositions of Group II and III.

The Invention of Group I is instead clearly and undeniably in subcombination-combination relationship with the Inventions of Groups II and III. A subcombination-combination relationship requires two-way, not one-way distinctness to justify a Restriction. See MPEP § 806.05(c). In the instant case, no restriction can be justified since the combinations of Groups II and III require all the particulars of the subcombination of Group I. Moreover, once the compounds of Group I are determined to be allowable, the combinations of Groups II and III will also necessarily be allowable. Thus, there is no basis on which a Restriction can be justified.

Withdrawal of the Restriction and examination of all claims is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



Brion F. Heaney Reg. No. 32,542
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

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